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HOME PHONE 244

THURSDAY, MAY 16, 1907.

W. T. Stead, like a good many

other foreigners, apparently con-
tinues to stay in America for the
pleasure of finding fault with it.

The Bureau of Corporations is

busily engaged in finding out
whether there is a lumber trust
so as to see whether it needs in-
vestigating.

President Roosevelt has had a

good many fantastic things said
of him, but it remained for editor
Watterson to refer to him as a
"near-Democrat".

The Treasury department an-
nounces that the per capita cir-
culation last month was \$34.96.
We can account for all of our
share in it except the \$34.

With these charges and coun-
ter charges of forgery in the life
insurance election, it seems to be
rapidly narrowing down to a
question of who did it first.

J. Edward Addicks says that

he will shake the dust of Amer-
ica from his feet. But those who
know him have little doubt that
he will retain a fair amount of
it in his pockets.

This suggestion of Speaker

Cannon for vice president is prob-
ably impracticable. But there
certainly would be a lot of things
doing if "Uncle Joe" ever took
charge as president of the Sen-
ate.

Col. Bryan says that the Dem-
ocratic party "deal kindly and
considerately with Mr. Hearst".
Now from Mr. Hearst's
attitude, it would appear he had
a notion he was going to be the
one to deal just that way with
the Democratic party.

News has been received at the

State department of the breaking
off of diplomatic relations be-
tween Mexico and Guatemala
with mingled emotions. Of
course a war anywhere is offici-
ally regretted, and especially in
the case of a war on this conti-
nent, the government stands
ready to offer good offices and
any other sort of first aid to the
injured that is available. But in
the trouble between Mexico and
Guatemala, Mexico seems to have
all the best of the argument in
point of equity and she is coming
to the front as a power in the
affairs of the western hemis-
phere, so that it is possible this
government will watch her dis-
ciplining her small southern
neighbor with more or less satis-
faction. Mexico has developed
rapidly and well in the last de-
cade. There is an immense a-
mount of American capital in-
vested in the country and she
has very largely lived down her
former reputation for political
brain-storms. Her development
can be watched by this country
with satisfaction and without en-
vy, and if she proves her ability
and willingness to spank some of
the turbulent little republics near
her when they need it, there will

be a large part of the White Man's
Burden lifted off the shoulders
of this government.

The government is looking for

from 500 to 1,000 hardy, indus-
trious farmers to accept farms
on a rather novel plan for little
or nothing. There are strong ef-
forts being made by the govern-
ment now to settle up the irri-
gable west. The call for volun-
teer farmers is part of this cam-
paign. There is about 75,000 ac-
res of land, good farming land,
much of it already under ditch
and more being put there on the
Utah Indian Reservation. This
is the reservation from which a
war party of Utes recently broke
away and went on a spree thro'
Wyoming and South Dakota. The
Indians do not want the land and
will not farm it, so the govern-
ment is willing to rent it out to
American farmers at 25 cents per
acre per year with the privilege
of buying it in fee simple when
the Indians to whom it has been
allotted die off. The land is at a
fine altitude, 5,000 feet with a
fertile soil and even climate. All
temperate zone crops do well
there and there is an excellent
market for everything that can
be raised at good prices. It
offers a rather exceptional oppor-
tunity for farmers who want to
start their boys off in a fine lo-
cality at little expense. Details
of the plans for apportioning the
farms can be had on application
from the Commissioner of Indian
Affairs at Washington.

After the delegation of New

York labor men called on the
President and talked over the Id-
aho situation, they left with
pleased surprise, announcing that
all he wanted in the trial was
"absolute justice". It appar-
ently takes little to please and
less to surprise a New York lab-
or leader. This was all the Presi-
dent had ever been anxious about
and he assured his callers that if
there was an apparent miscar-
riage of justice in either direc-
tion, he would bring the matter
to the attention of the Attorney
General and see if the federal
government could do anything to
right the matter. All anyone
wants in the case of Moyer, Hay-
wood and Pettibone, charged
with the murder of Gov. Steun-
enberg, is "absolute justice".
But there is a serious question
among the government officials
who are watching the case from
Washington, whether this can be
secured in Idaho. The Western
Federation of Miners is not made
up exclusively of thugs and ruf-
fians, but there are many hard
undesirable citizens even among
the leaders of the organization
who would stop at nothing to
turn the trial their way. The
mine owners are perhaps a little
more disposed to fairness in their
methods, but scarcely more scrup-
ulous. There is every prospect
of violence before the trial is over
and it may be that the govern-
ment after all will have to
step in and see fair play.

Otterbein.

The farmers of this vicinity

will finish planting corn this
week.

Simon Hetzler and sister Anna

spent Sunday at Whitewater.

John Gilfillan and wife attend-

ed the funeral of Mrs. Ayers at
Fort Jefferson Sunday afternoon.

Simon Swinger and family

spent Sunday at Painter Creek.

Several from this place attend-

ed the pupils' examination at
Greenville Saturday.

Levi Shumaker spent Sunday

with Albert Siler and wife.

Lydia Collins entertained com-
pany Sunday.

Orla Farst and wife and John

Grubbs spent Sunday with E. C.
Grubbs.

Ezra Slifer and wife spent

from Saturday till Monday with
relatives and friends at Ansonia.

Bert Horn and wife of Rich-
mond, Ind., are spending a few
days with Otho Detro and wife.

WORK OF TAX COMMISSIONS

Review of Progress Being Made in
Other States.

The commission of California was

created in 1905, charged with a thor-
ough investigation of the whole prob-
lem of taxation. Its report is a com-
prehensive discussion of the ques-
tions that are now confronting most of
our states, but its recommendations are
moderate. The tax on personal prop-
erty is unqualifiedly condemned as in-
volving glaring inequalities between
different classes of property, between
county and county, between city and
city, between city and county, be-
tween man and man. The attempts to
"equalize" the tax by state boards
only serve to intensify the injustices
and inequality. Moreover, the tax is a
veritable "school for perjury."
This language has become familiar.
It has been used by a dozen commis-
sions in as many states.

The California commission favors

complete separation of state from lo-
cal taxation. It would give counties
and cities the exclusive right to tax
real and personal property, or real
property alone, and reserve for the
state corporations and franchise taxes.
Minor suggestions are added, and all
are able defended.

A tax commission was named by

the Massachusetts legislature to con-
sider reforms immediately practicable
rather than profound and fundamen-
tal changes in the system of taxation.
The legislature believes that it is desir-
able to make improvements in the
present system which shall prove
stepping stones to more radical
changes.

The report recommends a number

of new taxes and of modifications that
are calculated to render the state and
the counties more independent of each
other in taxation. Home rule is recog-
nized as the ideal to work for, and
independence is to be made complete
in the future. Among the specific rec-
ommendations are these: The taxation
of billboards; the extension of the in-
heritance tax to direct successions;
the imposition of a franchise tax on
express companies; a graded tax on
automobiles; a tax on stock transfers
similar to that which has proved so
successful in New York; and, finally,
the retention by the state of all fran-
chise taxes on railroad, telegraph and
telephone companies.

The commission estimates that the

state will gain over \$3,000,000 annu-
ally from these new sources of revenue,
and such gain will enable it to abolish
the direct tax on real and personal
property, except for local purposes.—
Indianapolis Star.

FEDERAL AND STATE TAXES

By W. M. HAYS.

U. S. Asst. Sec'y of Agriculture.

(From an address on "Country
Life Education.")

Investigations to discover how best

to finance movements to improve the
condition of our farmers, our city
workers, and our home-makers have
led to the discovery of a fact worthy
of most serious consideration. In its
early days, the country being small
and jeopardized by external foes, the
general government reserved the right
to levy indirect taxes, as on imports,
on alcohol and on tobacco. The states
and lesser political divisions, on the
other hand, raised their revenues by
more direct taxation, as on personal
property, on incomes of corporations
and of individuals, and on inherit-
ances.

It so happens that since the federal

government and the state were al-
lowed these sources of income vast
economic changes have taken place,
placing the federal government greatly
at an advantage as compared with
all the states combined in securing
taxes. With the enormous develop-
ment of manufactured products and
the increased power of the people to
purchase them, and with the greatly
cheapened transportation resulting
from the circulation of vastly greater
quantities of commodities, the rev-
enues obtained by the federal govern-
ment have enormously increased. The
states, on the other hand, find it im-
practicable to secure such large
amounts of public revenue from the
more direct forms of taxation. This is
clearly illustrated by the fact that
the federal government thus secures
in taxes revenues amounting annually
to \$800,000,000. This is \$10 per
capita, or nearly \$50 per family. The
states, on the other hand, annually
bring into their state treasuries only
\$2 to \$3 per capita, or about \$20,000,
000. It should be observed that rev-
enues derived by cities, counties,
townships, and other political bodies
make the state and local taxes pos-
sibly somewhat larger than the fed-
eral revenue. The fact that the state
legislature is often chafed under
pledge to keep down state expenses,
while the federal legislature is expect-
ed to secure all he can get for his
state from federal appropriations, has
not a little to do with the relatively
larger growth of the federal budget.

A PERMANENT TAX COMMISSION.

The sentiment in favor of a per-
manent tax commission grows strong-
er. The tax committees have found
the need for authentic and exhaustive
information on the various phases of
taxation, and many members have
declared that the legislature should
enact very few tax laws until a com-
petent commission has had an oppor-
tunity to investigate the results of
such laws in other states.—Minneap-
olis (Minn.) Tribune.

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CONDENSED STORIES.

An Orator Who Was Willing to Pay
to Be Heard.

John Barrett, director of the bu-
reau of American republics, former
minister to Colombia, ex-commis-
sioner to the orient for the Louisi-
ana Purchase exposition, etc., has
the new title of "two dollar a min-
ute talker."

Barrett ever has had a pretty ex-
tensive reputation as a talker. He
is an emergency talker, an endur-
ance talker. It is said of him that
he once started on a journey with a
member of the cabinet, and as they

for the Jamestown exposition.

"Really," he concluded, with a
smile, "one would think that the
whole world was animated and kept
progressing by a spirit of hatred
and revenge and bitter enmity."
Then he told this story:

"A pale, wan woman on her death-
bed said in a weak voice to her hus-
band:

"Henry, if I die promise me one
thing."

"Gladly, my poor darling. What
is it I am to promise?"

"Promise me that you will marry
Mary Simpson."

"The man started."

"But," he said, "I thought you
hated her."

"I do, Henry," the dying woman
whispered, "I want to get even
with her."

Where He Got Them.

William J. Flynn, the secret serv-
ice agent, was discussing a certain
German burglar alarm with a New
York reporter.

"It was this alarm," said Mr.
Flynn, with a laugh, "that a thick-
set man called on a hardware dealer
about."

"I'd like to sell you cheap 100
burglar alarms," the man said.

"Are you a manufacturer?" the
hardware dealer asked.

"No, sir," was the reply; "I'm a
farglar."

"Squeezing" in the Chinese Army.

The pay of a private soldier in
General Ma's army is about seven
Mexican dollars a month. That gen-
eral is supposed to have entirely
done away with the "squeezing" of
the soldiers' pay. In order to do so
it was necessary to belaud "three or
five" officers. There is some doubt,
though, asserts a recent writer in
the Metropolitan Magazine, whether
or no this evil is entirely done away
with. One soldier was asked if he
would fight if China got into trouble
with the Russians. "What, risk my
life for \$1.50 a month?" he replied.

Homeless Manhattan.

A melancholy fact is that in New
York, relatively to the size of the
population, fewer people own homes
than in any other city of the world.
There dwell on the island of Man-
hattan 391,687 families, only 16,316
of whom hold title to the houses
they occupy. Ninety-four out of ev-
ery hundred families pay rent. One
result of these circumstances, as
Rene Bache points out in Pearson's,
is that the population of the Ameri-
can metropolis shifts in a more
kaleidoscopic fashion than any other
known.

Wonderful Vision.

Sir Robert Ball, the famous Brit-
ish scientist, is fond of imparting
information to the young. Once he
was showing a little boy how to
study the heavens through a tele-
scope. "That star," said Sir Robert,
"goes around the other." Anxious
to please such a great man, the
youngster made this staggering re-
ply, "Yes, I saw it." As a matter of
fact, the star to which the scientist
referred takes 900 years to make the
circuit.

Mock Oysters.

One-half cup corn, one-half cup-
ful milk, salt and pepper to suit
taste. One cupful flour, one tea-
spoonful baking powder. Drop with
a teaspoon in small dabs in hot
grease and fry brown.

Fricassee of Dried Beef.

One cupful of dried beef chopped
fine, one large tablespoonful butter,
one-half pint milk, two eggs. Melt
the butter in the milk over hot wa-
ter, put in the meat and cook about
five minutes. Add the beaten eggs
slowly and stir until the sauce is
thick. Serve immediately on toast
or fried bread.

Wanted to Get Even.

Alfred H. Love, the peace advoca-
te, had been protesting in Philadel-
phia against the great quantity
of military features in preparation

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Notice to Teachers.

THE regular meetings for the examina-
tion of applicants for teachers' certifi-
cates will be held in the West School build-
ing in Greenville, Ohio, on the first Saturday
of each month.

The Patterson examinations will be held
on the third Saturday of April, and on the
second Saturday of May.

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See Clubbing List.

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Rye	60
Clover Seed	7 50

PRODUCE

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Butter	16-18
Lard	9
Potatoes	55
Chickens	10
Turkeys	11
Shoulders	10
Bacon	10
Ham	12

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